

HOUSE BILL 196

By Hensley

AN ACT to name the Davy Crockett Long Hunters
Shooting Range at David Crockett State Park in
Lawrence County in honor of the late Donald
"Hopsing" Pilkinton.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor the memory and permanently commemorate the accomplishments of those citizens who served this State with the greatest acumen and dedication; and

WHEREAS, the late Donald "Hopsing" Pilkinton was most assuredly one such valuable citizen and public servant; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Lawrence County, Mr. Pilkinton was a gentleman who always approached the people of his community with a ready smile and a helping hand; and

WHEREAS, in his professional life, Mr. Pilkinton served his country in the United States armed forces and was a member of the National Guard; he also protected and preserved the public safety as a policeman and a sheriff's deputy; and

WHEREAS, he was perhaps best known for the instrumental role he played in founding the Davy Crockett Long Hunters, the very organization responsible for establishing the shooting range at David Crockett State Park in Lawrence County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pilkinton was an extremely active member of the Davy Crockett Long Hunters, having served as President, Vice President, and Range Officer several times during the club's 24-year existence; and

WHEREAS, a cherished mentor, teacher, and friend to his fellow Long Hunters, he served as an outstanding goodwill ambassador for the organization through his active participation in the Spring Rendezvous and historical Crockett Day events at David Crockett State Park; and

WHEREAS, a man known and loved throughout his community, Mr. Pilkinton reveled in preserving the mountain man and long hunter traditions for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Donald "Hopsing" Pilkinton was a vital force in the establishment of the shooting range at David Crockett State Park through his important work with the Davy Crockett Long Hunters, and it is thus most appropriate that this shooting range should bear his name; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Davy Crockett Long Hunters Shooting Range at David Crockett State Park in Lawrence County is hereby named in honor of the late Donald "Hopsing" Pilkinton as a lasting tribute to one of the most beloved citizens and public servants this State has ever produced.

SECTION 2. The commissioner of environment and conservation is directed to erect or affix suitable signs designating the Davy Crockett Long Hunters Shooting Range at David Crockett State Park as the "Donald 'Hopsing' Pilkinton Memorial Shooting Range".

SECTION 3. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of environment and conservation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.